

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Stendal

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT 17 October to 5 November 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 23 November 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

SOURCE [REDACTED]

DO NOT CIRCULATE

25X1X

1. On 5 November 1951, the Hindenburg Kaserne in Stendal (M 53/Y 85) was occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops, about 40 percent were war veterans. Soldiers observed wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets. About 50 to 60 tanks were seen in the garages and seven 45-mm AT guns in the billeting area. A fellow worker in the installation observed about 20 x 122-mm artillery pieces moving into the billeting area. Vehicles identified at the installation [REDACTED]

25X1B

25X1B

ILLEGIB

25X1X

(2)

3. The Taubentzien Kaserne on Osterburgerstrasse was occupied to capacity by 1,700 troops, including a military band of 35 men. Most of the troops observed wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, some wore red-bordered black epaulets and a few black-bordered black epaulets. On 2 November [REDACTED]

LEGIB

25X1A

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25X1A

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25X1B

25X1X

(3)

The troops in the Stendal military post were restricted to their quarters.

4. Eight major convoys of vehicles were seen passing through Gohro, 4 km southwest of Stendal, on 18 October. They came from the direction of Stendal and included vehicles [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A

5. A train seen standing at the Stendal railroad station at 2 a.m. on 27 October carried about 30 trucks with numbers of the [REDACTED] The 25X1B train subsequently departed in a northerly direction. (5)

25X1X

6. At 7 a.m. on 30 October, a unit of 150 to 200 troops with 8 x 100-mm AT guns, 12 caterpillar tractors, 6 trucks and 1 field kitchen was loaded on a train at the Stendal railroad station. The loading operation was completed by noon, and the train remained on the Magdeburg-bound track, but was without an engine. Five of the vehicles on the train were [REDACTED] 25X1B

25X1B

(6)

7. A motor column seen coming from the direction of Stendal on 17 October consisted of 12 rocket launchers and about 20 vehicles of the [REDACTED] 25X1B
[REDACTED] 10 rocket launchers and 15 trucks of the [REDACTED] 1 field 25X1B kitchen, 1 ambulance and 1 repair shop truck. Six to eight trucks of the [REDACTED] were occupied by troops with field equipment who wore red-bordered black epauletts. Some of the trucks of the [REDACTED] also 25X1B carried troops. Local residents said that the column moved toward Tangermünde. The same column was seen returning along Osterburgerstrasse at 9 p.m. on 24 October. Twelve prime movers, each carrying about 12 soldiers and towing a 100-mm AT gun, were seen moving toward Borstel at 10:30 p.m. (7)

25X1B

25X1B

25X1A

Comments.

- (1) The units in the Hindenburg Kaserne are believed to include a motorized rifle regiment of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. The 122-mm artillery pieces probably belong to the 693d How Arty Regt of the same division. Another 25X1A
[REDACTED] artillery pieces, probably of the same unit, in the barracks installation at the end of September 1951. [REDACTED]
It is therefore possible that at least components of the artillery regiment, which is carried at Borstel airfield, are now stationed in the Hindenburg Kaserne. The assignment of the tanks mentioned in the present report cannot be determined, because the present and previous reports indicate that the division's 16th Gds (?) Tank Regt is stationed in the Albrecht der Haer Kaserne. [REDACTED] The statement in the present report that the troops included 40 percent war veterans is doubted inasmuch as the percentage of war veterans is believed to amount to no more than 10 or 15 percent, namely NCOs. The vehicle numbers mentioned in the present report belong to the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. 25X1A
- (2) Regarding the location of the tank regiment, see [REDACTED] Comment (1). The JS tanks are probably heavy SP guns on JS chassis. The AT guns may belong to the AT artillery battalion of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. The vehicles observed belong to headquarters units and the Hq LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps, headquarters units of the Third Shock Army and components of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div.
- (3) The Taunentzien Kaserne is believed to quarter a motorized rifle regiment of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, [REDACTED] The vehicle [REDACTED] in the present report belong to this division. 25X1B

25X1X

25X1B

25X1B (4)

[REDACTED] the columns belong to headquarters units of both the Third Shock Army and the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps, and to components of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div.

25X1B

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25X1A

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25X1B

(5) [REDACTED], the train carried a component of the 8th Art Div. See [REDACTED] 25X1A

(6) A unit of the 4th (?) AT Arty Brig.

(7) The observation of 22 rocket launchers in conjunction with vehicle markers which partly belong to the XXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps confirms the corps's unidentified rocket launcher regiment (?) in Stendal-Borstel until 17 October 1951. The number of the rocket launchers fairly definitely indicates that the unit must be of regimental size. The repeated observation of up to 22 x 100-mm AT guns in Stendal during the summer of 1951 led to the conclusion in August 1951, that components of the 780th (Gun ?) Arty Regt of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div

25X1A were stationed in Stendal. [REDACTED]. This is confirmed by the present report which indicates the possibility that components of the regiment may also be stationed in Gardalegen and Borstel. The report indicates that the units from Stendal returned to their post from field exercises, and that the barracks installations at the post were again occupied to capacity by 5 November 1951. The strength estimates of troops in the individual installations approximately correspond to those reported prior to the summer training period.

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